## Message Text

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**ACTION EUR-12** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03

INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02

CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04

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FM AEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1061

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

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USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, PFOR, EEC, DA

SUBJECT: BRITISH REFERENDUM STRENGTHENED DANISH POPULAR SUPPORT OF EC MEMBERSHIP

REF: A. COPENHAGEN 1631, B. COPENHAGEN 1387

SUMMARY. A POLL TAKEN JUNE 12, ONE WEEK AFTER THE BRITISH REFERENDUM, SHOWED POPULAR SUPPORT OF CONTINUED DANISH MEMBERSHIP OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITITES RISING SHARPLY TO 61 PERCENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FAVORABLE WITH ONLY 31 PERCENT OPPOSED. THE POLL RESULTS EXCEEDED

THE 57 - 33 PERCENT VOTE IN THE

OCTOBER 1972 REFERENDUMWHICH CARRIED DENMARK INTO THE EC AND SHOWED MUCH STRONGER SUPPORT OF EC MEMBERSHIP THAN ANY POLL DURING THE INTERMEDIATE PERIOD. END SUMMARY.

- 1. IN THE WAKE OF THE SUCCESSFUL BRITISH REFERENDUM, A POLL TAKEN JUNE 12 BY THE VILSTRUP RESEARCH INSTITUTE (A GALLUP COMPETITOR) INDICATED THAT 61 PERCENT OF THE DANES WANTED DENMARK TO REMAIN AS A MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES. ONLY 31 PERCENT STILL PREFERRED DENMARK TO LEAVE THE EC, WHILE 8 PERCENT WERE UNDECIDED.
- 2. A SIMILAR POLL BY THE SAME INSTITUTE ONE YEAR AGO SHOWED ONLY 36 PERCENT FAVORING DANISH MEMBERSHIP WITH 47 PERCENT OPPOSED AND 17 PERCENT UNDECIDED. A GALLUP POLL IN APRIL THIS YEAR (REF B) AS WELL AS VILSTRUP POLLS ABOUT THE SAME TIME SHOWED ABOUT 40-40 BALANCE BETWEEN SUPPORTERS AND OPPONENTS BUT THE GALLUP PLL, ADDITIONALLY, INDICATED AN OVERWHELMING MAJORITY AGAINST CONTINUED DANISH MEMBERSHIP SHOULD THE UK OPT OUT.
- 3. THE POSITIVE BRITISH REFERENDUM HAS APPARENTLY HAD A DECISIVE INFLUENCE IN RESTORING THE SUBSTANTIAL MAJORITY SUPPORT OF DANISH MEMBERSHIP IN THE EC GIVEN BY THE 1972 DANISH REFERENDUM.

  DETAILS OF THE VILSTRUP POLL INDICATED, HOWEVER, LITTLE CHANGE AMONG ADVOCATES AND OPPONENTS WHEN REGISTERED BY POLITICAL AFFILIATION. THE LEFT-WING PARTIES (COMMUNISTS, LEFT SOCIALISTS AND PEOPLES' SOCIALISTS) AND THE JUSTICE (GEORGIST) PARTY REMAIN FIRMLY OPPOSED. THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATS ARE DIVIDED, NOW WITH A SLIGHT MAJORITY IN FAVOR OF MEMBERSHIP, WHILE THE NON-SOCIALIST PARTIES STILL SHOW VERY SOLID MAJORITIES IN FAVOR OF EC MEMBERSHIP.
- 4. THE RESTORATION OF STRONG MAJOIRITY SUPPORT OF DANISH MEMBERSHIP OF THE EC SEEMS PRIMARILY A REFLECTION OF A MODERATED ATTITUDE AMONG ERSTWHILE EC OPPONENTS IN THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC AND RADICAL PARTIES.

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## Message Attributes

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Concepts: MEMBERSHIP, PUBLIC ATTITUDES, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

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